United Nations S/2016/1089

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 December 2016
English
Original: French

Letter dated 19 December 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué published by the current Chairperson of the African Union, Mr. Idriss Deby Itno, President of the Republic of Chad, in support of the decisions of the fiftieth ordinary session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Abuja on 17 December 2016, with a view to ensuring a swift, orderly and peaceful handover of power to the new Gambian authorities (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Gorgui **Ciss**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative

16-23084 (E) 030117 030117

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 19 December 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]

Press release

The current Chairman of the African Union expresses its full support to the summit decision of Economic Community of West African States for a speedy, orderly and peaceful transfer of power to the authorities in the Gambia

19 December 2016

The current Chairman of the African Union, Idriss Deby Itno, President of the Republic of Chad, continues to follow with close attention the developments in the post-electoral situation in the Gambia.

The current Chairman of the African Union, recalling the pronouncements made by the Peace and Security Council, on 6 and 12 December 2016, reaffirms the imperative need for an orderly and peaceful transfer of power to the President-elect of the Gambia, in line with the relevant provisions of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

The current Chairman of the African Union, once again, calls upon the outgoing President, Yahya Jammeh, to facilitate the smooth transfer of power to the newly elected President of the Gambia, Adama Barrow, as decided by the people of the country. He renews his call to the Gambian defence and security forces to strictly abide by the constitution and rule of law.

The current Chairman of the African Union, in this regard, congratulates the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for its principled stand with regard to the situation in the Gambia. He expresses the full support of the African Union for the decisions adopted by the fiftieth ordinary summit of the: ECOWAS Authority, held in Abuja on 17 December 2016, including the consideration to use all necessary means to ensure respect for the will of the people of the Gambia. He also commends the leadership and commitment demonstrated by Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Chairperson of the ECOWAS Authority and President of Liberia, aimed at ensuring a peaceful and orderly transfer of power in the Gambia.

The current Chairman of the African Union reaffirms the readiness of the African Union to pursue and intensify coordination efforts with ECOWAS and the United Nations, in order to facilitate the speedy and orderly transfer of power to the President-elect, including its full support for President Muhammadu Buhari, in its capacity as ECOWAS Mediator in the Gambia.